

the occasion employed to complete the great operation they have so long been executing by the appointment of a decided Republican with nothing equivocal about him. (To Albert Gallatin, 1810. C. V., 549.)

SUPREME COURT.—It has long been my opinion, and I have never shrunk from its expression (although I do not choose to put it into a newspaper, nor like a Priam in armor, offer myself its champion) that the germ of dissolution of our Federal Government is in the Constitution of the Federal Judiciary, an irrepressible body (for impeachment is scarcely a scare crow) working like gravity by night and day, gaining a little to-day and a little to-morrow, and advancing its noiseless steps like a thief over the field of jurisdiction until all shall be usurped from the States and the government of all be consolidated into one. To this I am opposed, because when all government, domestic and foreign, in little as in great things, shall be drawn to Washington as the centre of all power, it will render powerless the checks provided of one government on another and will become as venal and oppressive as the government from which it separated. It will be as in Europe, where every man must be pike or gudgeon, hammer or anvil. Our functionaries and theirs are wares from the same workshop; made of the same material and by the same hand. If the States look with apathy on this silent descent of their government into the gulf which is to swallow all, we have only to weep over the human character found uncontrollable but by a rod of iron and the blasphemers of man as incapable of self-government become his true historians. (To Mr. C. H. Hammond, 1821. C. VII, 216.)

SUPREME COURT.—There is no danger I apprehend so much as the consolidation of our government by the noiseless and therefore unalarming instrumentality of the Supreme court. This is the form in which Federalism now arrays itself and consolidation is the present principle of distinction between Republicans and pseudo-Republicans, but real Federalists. I must comfort myself with the hope that the judges will see the importance and the duty of giving their country the onlyevi-